


FLORA'S CENTENNIAL

1854

1954

JULY

4th - 10th



CELEBRATION

SOUVENIR PROGRAM 50c



Congratulations . . .

FLORA

**Have a Coke...
it's part of the fun**



DRINK
Coca-Cola

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

"Coke" is a registered trade-mark.

BOTTLED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE COCA-COLA COMPANY

Coca Cola Bottling Company of Olney, Illinois



CELEBRATION

JULY 4TH - 10TH, 1954

— FEATURING —

“FLORA THROUGH THE YEARS”

NIGHTLY — 8:15 P. M. — FOOTBALL FIELD

Monday thru Friday — July 5th to 9th

ART LOWRY and His Columbia Recording Orchestra

HIGH SCHOOL NEW GYM — 9:00 P. M. SATURDAY, JULY 10

PARADES — RIDES — FIREWORKS — ENTERTAINMENT

7 DAYS OF GALA EVENTS AND FUN

1854 — 100 YEARS OF PROGRESS — 1954





BEST WISHES FROM
WILLIAM G. STRATTON
Governor
OF THE GREAT STATE OF ILLINOIS

Dedication

This book is dedicated with a profound sense of gratitude to those inspired men and women who founded this Community—

To those who have unselfishly, both individually and collectively, given their untiring efforts towards the continued growth of our community,

To those who served through the wars to maintain our American heritage,

To all our past and present city officials and employees,

To our gallant volunteer fire department, who have served our community so faithfully,

To our churches and schools for their spiritual guidance and education,

To all those persons who ever have, do now, or ever state with pride, "Flora is my home," we humbly dedicate this centennial program.

Centennial Committees

OFFICERS:

President	Leo R. Allen
Vice Presidents	Edgar Hancock, Harold Karlin
Secretary	Fred McCollum
Treasurer	Florence Douglas

EXECUTIVE BOARD

CUTIVE BOARD Leo R. Allen, Chairman, Edgar Hancock, Harold Karlin, Fred McCollum, Harold Wineland, Phil Mann and Florence Douglas.

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RD OF DIRECTORS Mrs. Fred Chaney,
Mrs. Donald Mattingly, B. V. Spalding, Harold
Wineland, Norman Bryden, Phil Mann, Dr.
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Charles Briscoe, Burl Luttrell, John Venable,
Charles E. Briscoe.

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Harold Karlin, co-chairmen.

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Mattingly, chairman, Father Loepker, Edward
W. Mann, James R. Wood, Donald Canedy
and the Flora Ministers.

Governors Day — B. V. Spalding, chairman,
Mrs. Arthur Holt, Paul Riggle, Mrs. Leo R.
Allen.

Industrial Day -- Jack Jones, chairman, E. C. Lawrence, Howell Tatum, William A. Lindsey, Ray Britton, Earle Reynolds, Harold Karlin, Earl Labertew, Arthur Abner.

Veterans Day ----- Delbert Stanford and
Leo Spitzner, co-chairmen, Harold Crackel,
Clovis Hoskins.

Homecoming Day - Ralph Meyer, chairman,
Youth and Future Farmers Day - L. R. Wells,
chairman, C. S. Zimmerman, Harland Brent-
linger, Mike Sager.

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Bernard Dunnigan, chairman, Flora Volunteer
Fire Dept., William Given, Herbert McMillan,
J. I. Hornbuckle, and Flora Police Department.

Centennial Committee



Executive Committee



Edgar Hancock



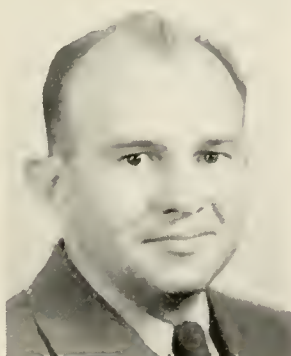
Leo R. Allen



Harold Karlin



Florence Douglas



Phil Mann



Harold Wineland



Fred McCollum

GREETINGS

TO

The Flora Centennial of Our City, in its

100th ANNIVERSARY

And to the Unified Purpose of All Its Citizens for Its

Future Expansion, Growth and Prosperity.

May Harmony and Good Will Prevail to Make Its Second Century

Symbolical of the Progress and Peace That Has Characterized Its

Existence in the Past.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK

Flora, Illinois

Underwriters of Flora Centennial

V. F. W. Auxiliary
 Flora Lumber Co. — 3
 Fred McCollum
 Paul T. Riggle
 Throgmorton-Powless Drug Store
 Dr. E. J. McDonald
 Tip Top Creamery
 E. O. Brooks Appliances
 E. Harold Wineland
 Maxwell & Oglesby
 Newton J. Branson
 Dale Mann & Co.
 C. E. Hemphill
 W. E. Wood
 Haskins Men's Wear
 McLaughlin's Hardware
 Lillie Harrison
 B. V. "Buck" Spalding
 Stanford's Clothing Store
 Silver Moon Tavern
 Flora Record Publishing Co.
 Hancock Funeral Home
 Robert R. Garrison
 Hotel Starr
 Clarence T. Smith
 New Casino
 Flora Building & Loan
 Tarsa Ward
 Rich's Furniture Store
 Larry Spalding
 J. C. Penney Co., Inc.
 H. W. Eaton
 A. R. Smith Dealership
 Ralph Richey
 Donald Richey
 Clem Richey, Jr.
 Midstate Welding Supplies
 Bryden's
 Large's Auto Supply
 Smelser's
 Cunningham Gift Shop

Vaught Oil Co.
 Robert Riggle
 Flora Elk's Club, Inc. — 5
 Garden City Food Store
 Carter's Cleaners
 Spitzner Brothers
 H. F. Pixley
 Leland L. Keith
 V. F. W. Post 3999 — 5
 American Legion Post 14 — 5
 Four Sisters Mfg. Co.
 Meyer & Meyer
 Dr. H. D. Fehrenbacher
 Dr. H. B. Dillman
 Hettiger's Jewelry Store
 Flora Pure Milk Co.
 Dr. A. Paul Naney
 J. M. Clark Garage
 Emory D. Given
 Borders Radio Service
 Wilson Motor Sales
 Dr. Eugene Foss
 F. H. Simpson Co.
 R. D. Lewis
 Cinderella Beauty Shop
 Dr. R. D. Finch
 Harold E. Crackel
 Scudamore Brothers
 Ralph Hill
 Dr. M. C. Powell
 Henson's North End Market
 Frost and Walker
 Flora Oil & Service Co.
 Forrest Hill Tractor Service
 Record Printery
 Lyman & Grace Bottorff
 Ollie's Fashion Shop
 East End Cafe
 Flora Fire Department — 5
 Leslie Wells
 Marion & Marie Levitt

Lester Bay Electrolux
 Fraternal Order of Eagles
 A. W. Haak
 Kroger Grocery Co.
 Clay County Shrine Club
 Bowman's Hardware
 Southern Illinois Lumber Co.
 Dixie Shops
 Bruno Perk
 H. & B. Ready-Mix
 Illinois Brokerage
 Fred and Opal Chaney
 Flora Moose Lodge — 5
 Tot & Teen Shoppe
 Valbert Feed Store
 Simpson Plumbing Co.
 Vernon Phillips
 E. H. Arbutnot
 E. M. Petty
 Wilkins Shoe Store
 Angelo Cherkos
 Flora Skelgas Service
 Julius C. Broeg
 Lucille's Flower Shop
 Spot Cafe—Lawrence Rauch
 Morris Stores, Inc.
 J. C. Huff
 Siegel's Style Shop
 Frank Chaney
 International Shoe Co.
 Rechter Bros. Clothing Co.
 Rankin's Studio
 Sears Order Office
 Lee Brown
 Western Auto Associate Store

Liberal donations have been received from the following:

Orval F. Stine
 A. & P. Store
 C. O. Riggle

Due to the deadline of this Program, we regret the omission of any names or pictures that should have been included in this book.

LUCILLE'S

Flower & Gift Shop

Night Phone
422

Day Phone
422

Flora, Illinois

Throgmorton-Powless Drug Co.

1909 — 1954

Two Registered Pharmacists

Jno. H. Throgmorton and Cecil J. Powless



Reading Club, organized 1886 — Flora's oldest club. One charter member still living, Mrs. Amy Moore.

SCUDAMORE BROS.

Dry Goods—Ladies Ready-to-Wear—Clothing

Shoes—Furnishings—Groceries—Meats

Phone 24

Flora, Illinois

SAM BRYDEN CO.

Norman Bryden

Contractors

Manufacturers Store Fixtures

Mor-Vue Doors

Flora, Illinois



Flora Post of G. A. R. 1890



Charter Members of the Atheneum Literary Society of the Orchard City College. Of the original charter members five are still living. They are L. M. Greenlaw, E. C. Jacobs, R. B. Chaney, Clara Greenlaw and Cameron Harmon.



On to the Ball Game — Corner of Locust Street and East North Avenue — 1908

Best Wishes to Flora Centennial

MOTOR FREIGHT CORPORATION

Halloween Parade 1953



History of Flora

Prairies covered with dense grass, soil damp and swampy, an abundance of wild animals and serpents! This a hundred odd years ago was the land that was to become Flora.

From this uninviting and forbidding territory the early settlers of Flora, with sweat and toil, and great determination, hewed the foundation of a new settlement, one that was destined to grow till it became the "Garden Spot of Little Egypt", and the best spot on earth to many people.

The real beginning of Flora occurred in February 1854, when the town was laid out, surveyed, and plotted. This work was done by Ethelred Nixon, who was county surveyor, John Brown, of the concern of Songer, Camp, and Company, and Samuel White. The original townsite had an area of 85 acres.

The name Flora was selected for a twin purpose. A member of the firm of Songer, Camp and Co. had a very lovely daughter named Flora. The name was chosen as an honor to her and for the many wild flowers which grew in great abundance on the town site.

All of the land upon which the original town was built belonged to Samuel White. Of the original 85 acres, White deeded one-half interest in 40 acres to John Brown. The purpose was to get Brown's support in the selection of Flora as the site of the railroad's depot. White and Brown sold their first lots at a private sale and such men as Sol Finch, George Harter, and George Gunn bought property.

The first house in Flora was located on the land now occupied by the First National Bank and it belonged to Samuel White. The first house built in Flora after its founding was a frame home erected just west of White's cabin.

A store owned by Samuel White, in which he sold general merchandise, was the first business in Flora. He later sold the business to Sol Finch, who soon took George Harter as a partner. When Finch died White rejoined the firm as a partner of Harter. The old store was on the site now occupied by the Throgmorton-Powless Drug store.

Other early businesses were started by Gunn and Sons, and the Kenner Brothers. The Gunns did business in an establishment on what is now

FLORA PURE MILK CO.

FLORA'S ONLY HOME OWNED DAIRY, established in 1930 by Lawrence McCommons and Lester Garver, is now the oldest industry in Flora continuously operated by the same owners. Next year this plant will be 25 years old.

It has paid over two million dollars to farmers and employees.

When you buy dairy products from this plant you are contributing to the continued prosperity of the farmers and workers of Flora and surrounding community.

Help make Flora greater and boost for the Centennial.

CUNNINGHAM!

The name that has been in the Jewelry business in two adjoining buildings for 88 consecutive years. John Cunningham founded the Cunningham Jewelry store in 1866. His son, Charles, went to work for him at the age of 18 in 1888, and in 1896 purchased the business continuing in the same building as a Jeweler. His son, Rexford J. helped him during his school years and in 1913 purchased the Book Store next door, immediately adding several new lines including Jewelry. For 88 years the name Cunningham has served this community in the Jewelry and Optometry business, R. J. Cunningham continuing the Optometry business since 1924. We are proud of that record, and humbly grateful to each and everyone who has helped to make it a success. We are proud to take part in Flora's Centennial by being the name in the same business in the same location for 88 consecutive years.

MR. and MRS. R. J. CUNNINGHAM.

History of Flora

the corner of North avenue and Elm street. It was a combination store and post office. The first meeting held in Flora, after its incorporation, was held at the Gunns.

The first store in Flora to sell groceries only was opened by Robert Medley.

In 1855 Samuel White opened the first hotel in Flora, a place known as the Old Major House. After numerous changes in ownership it became the property of the Majors in 1859. In 1872 they built a new building and added an addition in 1882. The Greyhound Post House now occupies the land on which the Major House stood. Samuel White also had the first boarding house, livery stable, and blacksmith shop to be found in Flora.

The population of Flora in 1856 was approximately 100 persons.

In about 1857 Flora was incorporated by general law and in 1867 it received a special charter from the state legislature. The election to determine the citizens stand for or against incorporation was not held until December 30, 1859. The vote was 39 for incorporation and 16 against.

The first election of a president and board of trustees for the town of Flora was held at the local schoolhouse on January 11, 1860. There were 36 votes cast and 26 different people received votes. N. A. Eddy was elected president and G. W. Foster, H. G. Gunn, and S. D. Heap were named as trustees.

The board held its first meeting at the Gunn and Son's storehouse. At this meeting they selected the various officers to run the town and drew up the first 10 ordinances the town ever had. George Drummond was appointed constable and collector of revenue, John T. Drummond was named assessor and treasurer, and E. P. Turner was made superintendent of streets.

Flora took on great economic stature with the completion of the Ohio and Mississippi (now the B & O) railroad in 1857. It made Flora the shopping center of the area as merchants from the surrounding communities had to come to Flora for the purchase of their supplies. When the north-south line, the Springfield and Illinois Southeastern Railway was built it cost Flora much of the business from the surrounding territory but the added

Back row — Coach C. F. "Red" Hallopeter, Wayne Gibson, Harold Smith, John Forth, Lionell McConnell, Russell Corry, Luke Holder, manager.

Middle row seated — Phil Mann, Nolan Hodge, Elmer Knowles.

Front row — Harold "Huck" Berry, C. F. "Fuzzy" Hubbell.



FLORA WOLVES TAKE THIRD PLACE IN STATE TOURNAMENT

— 1926 —



History of Flora

revenue from the railroad more than made up for it.

When the dispatcher's office was moved to Flora, George Harter was made the first station agent. The building of the depot was the idea of J. F. Adduddell, during the time he was agent. The depot was built from the liberal subscriptions of local citizens and was later purchased by the railroad. The original depot was what is now the B & O freight house. The present depot was built in 1916-17.

The first schoolhouse was built in Flora in 1855 and was a log cabin. Its location was at the spot where Route 45 now turns north. A second school was built in 1856 and a third in May of 1865. This third school building was on land now occupied by the C. O. Stanford home on East Second street. In August of 1875 work was begun on the south building of McEndree school and work was completed in November. This building is still in use.

The first high school class was organized and studies begun in 1876. The first class graduated in 1879 and had five members.

The first public library was started in the latter part of the year 1870 and was made possible by the \$10 contributions of various civic minded citizens. The people of Flora sponsored many social functions to raise money for the library and also donated books. The present building was erected in 1903 with the aid of the Carnegie Foundation.

On March 9, 1867, the people of Flora voted the adoption of a charter and two days later, on March 11, the first election for a mayor of Flora was held. F. D. Stephenson was the winner and was therefore the first mayor the town of Flora ever had.

The first official census of the town was ordered taken on June 18, 1865. Completed on June 25 of the same year it indicated a total of 943 people living in Flora.

The first church to be organized within the city was the First Baptist church. It began to hold worship services in March of the year 1854. In October of the same year they began work on a building on land donated by Samuel White. It was not completed until 1859. The church has

Compliments

Kelly Food Products

KELLY'S

POTATO CHIPS

WELCOME

To the Best Place to Shop in Flora

Meet all your friends at the

BROKERAGE

History of Flora

been located in the same spot since its first building was completed.

Just before the turn of the century, Ebner Ice and Cold Storage Co. moved into Flora, and it was the first major industry to settle in this community. Their present building was erected in 1903.

In 1905 the first car made its appearance on the streets of Flora. It was a two cylinder Ford and was the proud possession of John Borders.

The banking business started in Flora in 1876 when Dr. B. F. Cunningham opened an establishment. In 1868 he took George Harter in as a partner. The original business was known as the Savings Bank and was the only such institution in Flora till 1869. Then Kenner and Rider started doing a general banking business and in 1871 sold out to L. F. Wilson & Co. The bank was then called the Clay County Bank. It was re-organized as a National bank and received its charter in April, 1872.

Elmwood cemetery had its first burial in 1854 when the infant son of Amos and Sarah Willson was laid to rest in what was then a corn field.

The first baby boy born in Flora was George H. Russell, born in 1854. The first girl, also born in 1854, was Hattie White.

In 1900 the city passed an ordinance for the establishment of a water system. On November 13, 1901, ordinance 84 was passed, it being a more complete plan for the development of Flora utilities. It empowered the Flora Light and Water Co. to establish a light plant and to operate a system of water works.

In 1898 Flora's first telephone system was installed. It was owned by T. J. Friend and its headquarters was in the rear of his grocery store. The location is the building of the store now occupied by R. J. Cunningham. The service moved twice, first to the second floor of the original building and then to the second floor of the First National Bank building.

On February 15, 1911, a franchise was granted the Flora Telephone Co. The franchise was for 20 years. In 1931 a franchise was granted the Illinois Commercial Telephone Co. The telephone system is now the property of the General Telephone Co.

SHOP AND SAVE AT

SEARS

RADIANT CHAPTER NO. 105 O.E.S.

Officers for 1954

Louise Greenwood, Worthy Matron—Ralph Wolf, Worthy Patron—Anna Mason, Assoc. Matron—Ralph Mason, Assoc. Patron—Katherine Carney, Secretary—Sylvia Dawson, Treasurer—Maxine Thomas, Conductress—Kat Spitzner, Assoc. Conductress—Dora Tisdale, Chaplain—Jennie Wells, Marshal—Thelma M. Shipley, Organist—Charlotte Campbell, Adah—Wilma Williams, Ruth—Shirley Misenhimer, Esther—Essie Davis, Martha—Aldine Zimmerman, Electa—Hazel D. Hoard, Warder—J. W. Monical, Sentinel—Cecelia Monical, Instructress—Mary Lewis, Color Bearer.

TIP TOP CREAMERY

Division of Beatrice Foods Company

Flora, Illinois

Compliments of

U. B. of C. & J. of "A" LOCAL 1404

Compliments of

OGLE MOTOR COMPANY

Sales & Service White Trucks, used Trucks. Machine Shop—Steam Cleaning—General Repairs Cars & Trucks

History of Flora

The city of Flora adopted the commission form of government in 1915, on May 3.

By 1912 there were two theatres in operation in Flora. One was the Opera House, the other the Casino. The Casino was the first to show moving pictures. The Orpheum theatre was built in 1921.

The City Hall, which houses all functions of city government was built in 1904, although extensive remodeling was done in the late '40s.

Two ward grade schools were erected in 1906 and the high school was built in 1912. The north building of McEndree school was finished in 1917, as was the Scudamore building and the Sexton Manufacturing Co., now occupied by the Four Sisters Manufacturing Co.

The post office block on North Main street was erected in 1918. In 1919 the First National Bank building was completed, along with the Masonic temple, the Catholic Sister's Home, and the Catholic school.

The Flora volunteer fire department was organized in March 1921. It had 31 members and through the years has earned the reputation of be-

ing one of the most efficient departments in the country. Until his passing, Chief E. D. Yeck was the oldest fire chief in the United States.

In 1934 oil was discovered near Clay City and Flora immediately became a center for area oil activity. Many people from other states moved into the community and they became loyal and civic minded citizens. With the oil came such major industries as the Dowell Chemical Co. and the Halliburton Co., along with many associated businesses. Oil and the people who bring it to the consumer have contributed much to the prosperity and community development of Flora.

In addition to oil, farm income has, through the years, contributed much to the economic stability of Flora. It still provides much of the wealth of the area and is a major source of income to the city.

Also contributing to Flora's continued growth and prosperity are the International Shoe Co.'s local plant, the Four Sisters Manufacturing Co., Valley Steel Products Co., Fabick Tractor Co., H. and B. Ready-Mix Co., Bryden's Mor-Vue Door Co.,

RICHEY BROS.

Your International Harvester Dealer Since
Flora's 75th Birthday

Tractors

Trucks

Farm Machines

Refrigerators

Congratulations, Flora on the Occasion

of Your First

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

and may you grow and prosper along with

Clay County for the centuries to come.

THE BIG FOUR MACHINE
and SUPPLY COMPANY

Clay City, Illinois

History of Flora

Schlumberger and a number of other smaller but substantial industries.

Valley Steel's selection of Flora as a location for a factory was an example of the fact that the spirit of determination and unified effort did not die with our forefathers. The industry was encouraged by the support of local citizens through an extensive fund-raising campaign, and it is adding greatly to the life of the city.

The Clay County Hospital, a modern building with 50 beds, was opened here in 1950.

What the future of Flora holds no one can predict. However the citizens of today have been

given a rich heritage of progress and the ability to overcome any obstacle. Flora, through the years, has been able to pull her people together when it was necessary for the good of the community and the same spirit that saw the founders over the rough spots can still be found in the younger generation which is doing so much to keep the growth of Flora on the up-grade.

Any wonder then, that Flora now takes her place among the leading cities of southern Illinois. Being on the cross-roads of two major transcontinental highways she presents to the traveler a well kept appearance, a spirit of friendliness and welcome, a town that anyone could be proud to call home.



The National Limited seen pulling into Flora, is one of the B & O's crack trains. The B & O and it's employees have had a big part in the growth and development of Flora.

COMPLIMENTS

of

The Flora Dentists

DR. L. W. DEWHIRST

DR. E. J. McDONALD

DR. M. C. POWELL

DR. W. E. WINTER

Compliments of

SKELGAS

Homer & Don Bute

TOT and TEEN SHOPPE

At the sign of the flying stork

Exclusive Infant and Children's Wearing Apparel
Special Gift Wrapping

Flora, Ill. 108 East North Avenue Phone 423R

Congratulations

V. F. W. AUXILIARY

100 Years of Progress

FLORA BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMAN'S CLUB

Better Business Women for a Better Business World

Mrs. Dorothy Crowder, President



1900

-

1954



My first insurance contract was made with the Queen Fire Insurance Company of New York in April of 1900. My first policy was written for Scudamore Brothers.

This policy, with other kinds of insurance, has been renewed for the last fifty-four years. Why such a record? Loyalty to my companies and faithfulness to my policy holders has made it possible. Reason. Very few persons know anything about insurance and they put their trust in their insurance agent. Therefore I deliver all my policies in person, explaining all policy provisions to them, that they may know exactly what they are paying for. When a loss occurs there are no arguments and disappointments by doing this. They understand and get the coverages needed in their business and home.

I write all kinds of insurance and bonds. With fifty-four years of insurance experience, if you have any kind of insurance problems bothering you, I would be glad to discuss them with you. I may be able to help you solve them as I have done in so many cases. It will give me great pleasure to help you.

I also represent Inland Discount Corporation, Paul Brown Building, St. Louis, Mo., with whom I finance my policy holders automobiles who need financing. This is a \$20,000,000 corporation, a human company with a personal touch with each customer. Very low interest rates for both new and used cars. Thirty months (30) given to repay on new cars at present. We can include in financing your car, provisions that should you be disabled by accident or sickness for more than 14 days, all payments thereafter are waived to resumption of your work. Should death overtake you, on receipt of copy of death certificate, your title marked paid will be mailed to your wife or estate.

I have my company's drafts to close the deal at once, should you meet their requirements. Call me day or night and I will come and close the deal for you.

Frank L. Medley

Phone 373-R

846 West North Ave.

Flora, Illinois

BRANSON FUNERAL HOME

Air Conditioned

Cadillac Equipment

"Our Aim Is To Be Worthy Of Your Friendship"

Newton J. Branson
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John T. Frank
License No. 5292

Lela B. Branson
License No. 2878

Compliments of the

FLORA DAILY NEWS-RECORD

Recording the life and history of Flora and Clay County

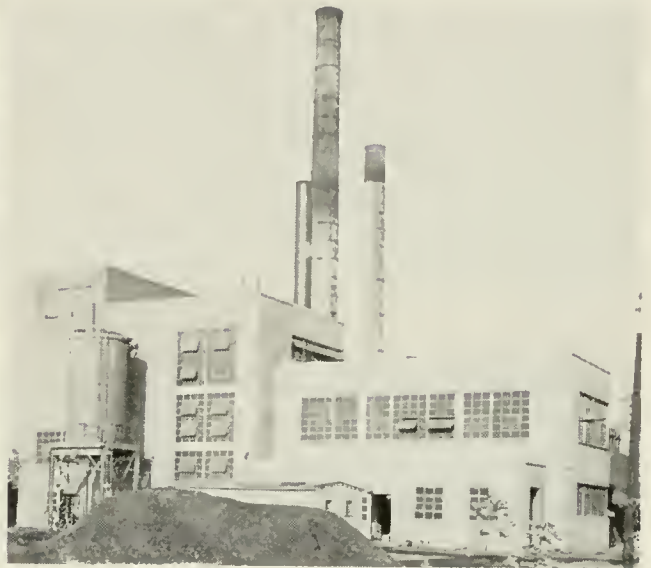
G. EARL WOOD, Gen. Mgr.

PAULINE J. COLBORN, Editor

Flora Today



INTERNATIONAL SHOE COMPANY - 1923



FLORA MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT



FOUR SISTERS MANUFACTURING COMPANY - 1942



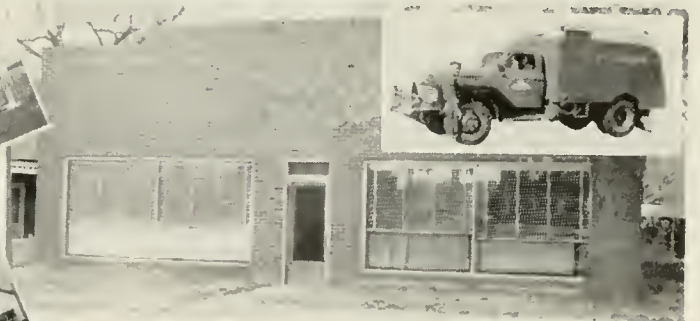
FABICK TRACTOR COMPANY - 1946



HALLIBURTON OIL WELL CEMENTING COMPANY - 1938



DOWELL, Incorporated - 1937



SCHLUMBERGER WELL SURVEYING CORPORATION - 1945



VALLEY STEEL PRODUCTS - 1951



H & B READY-MIX - 1953

WHERE INDUSTRY GROWS



FLORA TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL
Floyd C. Smith, Principal

Schools of Flora



SEMINARY SCHOOL



WASHINGTON SCHOOL



McKENDREE SCHOOL —Chlorus F. Hubbell, Principal of Grade Schools



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Flora Chamber of Commerce



Governor Yates at Flora, October 16, 1903



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Street fair in Flora in days gone by

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Flora, Illinois

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on its 100 Years of progress

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FLORA OIL AND SERVICE COMPANY

"MOBILGAS"

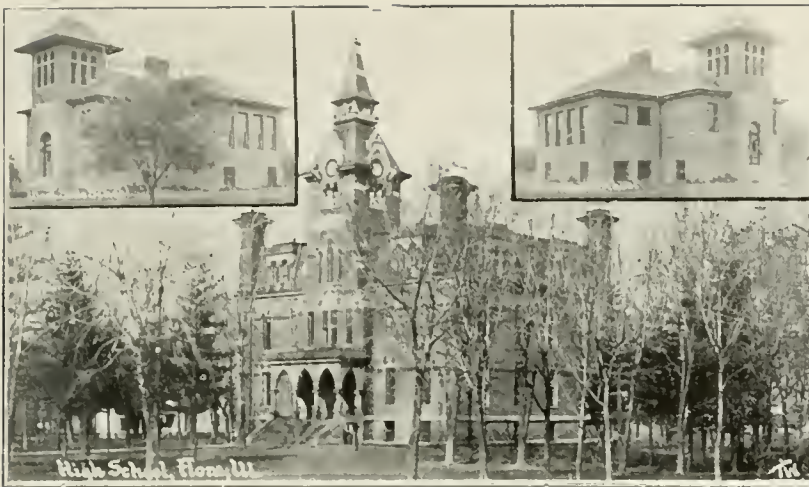
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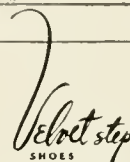
CLARENCE A. TILLEMA, County Judge

Compliments of

ROBERT L. BRISENDEN
County Superintendent of Schools



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BOYD'S - 6th & OLIVE



7th & OLIVE

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Flora Volunteer Fire Department

We are proud of these firemen who are constantly looking
after the welfare of the citizens of Flora.

WELCOME

FLORINE and TOWN Theatres

Larry Spalding



1890 – 1954

Progress . . .



Since 1890, when Edgar D. Hancock, Sr., farmer and school teacher, bought the Z. T. Green furniture and undertaking business, and established the HANCOCK FUNERAL HOME, it has been a substantial part of this community.

Through the years it has progressed in both service and equipment so that it might deserve the leadership that it has enjoyed. Many are the things that it first introduced, the first embalmers license, the first factory built caskets, first vaults, first horse drawn hearse, first motor funeral coach, first embalmer license by examination, and was also the first FUNERAL HOME in Clay County. For your comfort it has just been air-conditioned.

We present facts that most every one is familiar with; facts that cannot help but convince anyone that THE HANCOCK FUNERAL HOME, which has been in business in this City for 65 years, offers mortuary service of a type so desirable that no family could for one moment hesitate to call us in order to secure the finest and most modern type of mortuary service at any desired price.

HANCOCK Funeral Home

FLORA

XENIA

- Program -

SUNDAY, JULY 4, 1954

- 8:00 P.M. Inter-Denominational Church Services at Pageant Field with Dr. F. G. Schroeder, President of Eden Theological Seminary of Webster Groves, Mo., as the Principal Speaker.
Special Music by 100 Voice Church Choir directed by Donald Canedy.

GOVERNOR'S DAY — MONDAY, JULY 5, 1954

- 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 Opening of Centennial Headquarters on East North Avenue for the day.
10:00 A.M. Viewing of antique displays in shop windows on East North Avenue.
12:00 Noon Opening of exhibits on Carnival grounds including Jet and B29 planes displayed by the Ground Observer Corps of the Civil Defense of Illinois.
2:00 P.M. - 3:30 Gigantic Float parade—Parade route: Parade will form at McEndree School on East North Avenue; Moves West on North Avenue to Elm Street; South on Elm Street to Railroad Street; East on Railroad Street to South Main; South on South Main to Flora Avenue; East on Flora Avenue to Football field.
4:00 P.M. Drill demonstration by Ainad Temple Patrol Team & Drum & Bugle Corps at the Football Field Pageant site—(Admission Free).
6:00 P.M. Reception for Governor and City officials.
7:45 P.M. Introduction of dignitaries, and speech by Governor Wm. C. Stratton at Football Field Pageant site.
8:15 P.M. Coronation of Centennial Queen by Governor Stratton.
8:15 P.M. First performance of "FLORA THROUGH THE YEARS"
10:15 P.M. FIREWORKS DISPLAY—at Pageant site.

INDUSTRIAL DAY — TUESDAY, JULY 6, 1954

- 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 Opening of Centennial Headquarters on East North Avenue for the day.
10:00 A.M. Viewing of antique window displays on East North Avenue.
11:00 A.M. - 3:00 Conducted tours of inspection through: The International Shoe Co., B. & O. Roundhouse, Valley Steel Co.
12:00 Noon Opening of exhibits on Carnival grounds
1:00 P.M. Kangaroo Court Session in front of the First Nat'l Bank.
3:00 P.M. Variety show. Free admission at the Pageant site at football field featuring: The Flora High School German Band, the B & O Quartette; Alice Stoutenburg—vocalist; Charles Westman—vocalist; The Christianaires; Janet K. Smith—baton twirler; The Bras & Girdles Kitchen Band.
7:45 P.M. Swing Concert at the Pageant field by the Flora High School Swing Band.
8:15 P.M. Second showing of "FLORA THROUGH THE YEARS".
10:15 P.M. FIREWORKS DISPLAY—The pageant site.

VETERANS DAY — WEDNESDAY, JULY 7, 1954

- 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 Centennial Headquarters opens for the day and registration of all Veterans, American Legion Members and Veterans of Foreign War members.
10:00 A.M. Viewing of antique displays in shop windows on East North Avenue.

- Program -

- 2:00 P.M. Gigantic Childrens Day Parade . . . Forms at the McKendree School East North Avenue and moves West on North Avenue to Elm Street, South on Elm Street to Railroad Street, East on Railroad Street to South Main Street, South on South Main Street to Flora Avenue, and East on Flora Avenue to the Pageant Field, featuring the children of the community.
- 3:30 P.M. At the Pageant Field:
Judging of childrens costumes.
Variety Show featuring the children of the community; Patsy and Marianne Buckleh, tap-dancing; Joanie Bryden, dancing, The Can Can girls from Salem and many others. Master of ceremonies will be Lee E. Daniels, chairman of the Illinois Youth Commission.
- 7:45 P.M. Swing concert at the Pageant field by the Flora High School Band.
- 8:15 P.M. Final showing of "FLORA THROUGH THE YEARS".
- 10:15 P.M. Fireworks display.

SATURDAY, JULY 10, 1954

- 9:00 -1:00 P.M. The Centennial Queens Ball honoring the Flora Centennial Queen, featuring the music of Art Lowry and his nationally known recording band. Door prizes will include a Home Air Conditioner, an Easy Washer Spin Dryer, a 28 Gauge Automatic Shot Gun, and a Floor Fan. At the Flora High School New Gym. Admission \$2.00 per person.



WELCOME TO THE FLORA CENTENNIAL



FLORA KIWANIS CLUB



WE BUILD BY FAITH — LOYALTY — SERVICE

- Program -

12:00 Noon	Opening of Carnival at Carnival grounds for the day and evening.
12:00 Noon	Opening of exhibits on Carnival grounds
2:00 P.M.	Gigantic Veterans Parade. Forms at the McKendree School E. North Ave., and moves west on North Avenue to Elm Street, South on Elm Street to Railroad Street, East on Railroad Street to South Main Street, South on South Main Street to Flora Avenue, and East on Flora Avenue to the Pageant Field. Parade features Veterans organizations of Illinois and antique cars.
3:30 P.M.	At the pageant field: Introduction of distinguished guests. Speakers: Commander of the State of Illinois American Legion, Edward Driemyer; Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Raymond Shield and President of the American Legion Auxiliary, Margaret Stum and the President of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, Sophia Goldstein.
5:00 P.M.	Registration and Reception at the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars of all members and out of town guests
7:45 P.M.	Swing concert at the Pageant field by the Flora High School Swing Band.
8:15 P.M.	Third showing of "FLORA THROUGH THE YEARS".
10:00 P.M.	Open house and dancing at the American Legion Home and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.
10:15 P.M.	Fireworks display with a special display by the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

HOMECOMING DAY — THURSDAY, JULY 8, 1954

9:00 A.M. - 5:00	Opening of Centennial Headquarters on East North Avenue for the day.
10:00 A.M.	Viewing of antique displays in show windows on East North Avenue.
12:00 Noon	Opening of exhibits on Carnival grounds
12:00 Noon	Old fashioned family reunion picnic at the Doc Reed property on Vincennes Ave. Will feature sack races, wheelbarrow races, and soft ball game.
1:30 P.M.	Water fight between Flora Volunteer Fire Department and neighboring towns. Fire fighting demonstration by Flora Volunteer Fire Dept. at Carnival grounds at Vincennes Ave.
3:00 P.M.	Band Concert by the Flora City Band at Football Field Pageant site.
3:30 P.M.	Style Show by Sisters of the Swish and judging of the beards.
7:45 P.M.	Swing Concert at the pageant field by the Flora High School Swing Band.
8:15 P.M.	Fourth showing of "FLORA THROUGH THE YEARS".
10:15 P.M.	FIREWORKS DISPLAY—at Pageant site.

FUTURE FARMERS DAY AND YOUTH DAY FRIDAY, JULY 9, 1954

9:00 A.M.	Centennial Headquarters opens for the day.
10:00 A.M.	Viewing of antique displays in shop windows on East North Avenue.
12:00 Noon	Opening of Carnival at Carnival grounds for the day and evening.
12:00 Noon	Opening of exhibits on Carnival grounds



Three generations of the Peters Family.

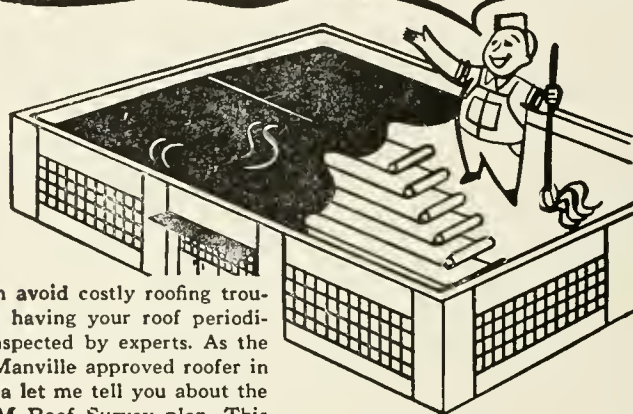
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SCHROEDER BROS.

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Flora, Illinois

Johns-Manville Approved Roofer



Shown above is one of the crowds watching the free acts at the Clay County Agricultural Fair in Charley Brown Memorial Park in 1953.

Rehearsals and Stage Construction



Centennial Queen Contestants



At the time the program went to press, the Queen Contest had not ended. The Centennial Committee owes these young ladies and others in the Queen Contest a debt of gratitude for their splendid efforts, through which the success of the Pageant was assured.

Synopsis of Scenes

PROLOGUE

A brilliant scene of pageantry presenting the Queen of the Flora Centennial Celebration. The Queen will welcome visitors from far and near surrounded by the beautiful ladies of her court, the Queens cadets, sailorettes, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and representatives of the various states. (Coronation to be held on Monday, July 5, only.)

EPISODE I THE RED MAN

The early inhabitants of Flora were the many Indian tribes which included the Kaskaskias, Delawares, Kickapoos, Shawnees and Piankeshaws. Here along the banks of the Wabash, they paid homage to the Sun God, to the moon and stars; it was in this land of their fathers that they followed the pursuits of free children of nature. Their care-free life was soon interrupted by the coming of Fench priests and missionaries who attempted to teach them civilized ways and a new religion.

EPISODE II THE EARLY TRADERS

On the heels of the French Missionaries came the English traders offering gaudy baubles in return for luxurious furs. Thus ensued a great rivalry between the English and the French which culminated into the French and Indian wars.

EPISODE III THE SPIRIT OF '76

Under the yoke of a tyrants oppression hatred flamed in the hearts of the gallant colonists . . . and there followed the Revolutionary War, a bitter struggle to throw off the mantle of persecution and declare the country to be a free and independent nation.

EPISODE IV CLARK STIRS THE MELTING POT FOR DEMOCRACY

George Rogers Clark with the aid of his co-patriots planned to kindle the fire of liberty by attacking their first objective, Kakaskia. On July 4, 1778 it was taken by complete surprise and fell into their hands.

EPISODE V CLARK TAKES VINCENNES

On the twenty third of February 1778, after much suffering from cold and hunger, Clark and his men arrived at Vincennes and stormed the fort and after a gallant battle the American flag was raised above the stronghold.

EPISODE VI THE NEW FRONTIER

As the American Flag was run up over the Fort of Vincennes the great influx of homesteaders came flocking to the undeveloped country of the western frontier, and settlers eager to purchase lands, to hunt and trap and gain entrance to the forest regions, loaded their possessions into covered wagons and the search for a home on the frontier was on.

EPISODE VII REMEMBER THE SABBATH

In the midst of their arduous tasks of settling the frontier, the early pioneers still found time to pause and give spiritual thanks.

EPISODE VIII FLORA IS BORN

In 1854 the town of Flora was officially founded and was incorporated under the general law in 1857 and in 1867 given a special charter by which the town has been governed ever since.

EPISODE IX TAUGHT TO THE TUNE OF THE HICKORY STICK

The early settlers, realizing the need for education, first attempted to teach their children at home. In 1855 the first school house was built.

EPISODE X THE FIRST IRON HORSE

The first railroad to be built through Flora was the Baltimore and Ohio. It was completed on June 1, 1857 and with its completion a new era of industry and agriculture was born.

EPISODE XI IN ANSWER TO THE CALL

Like an overwhelming tidal wave, the pioneers were swept along until they clashed in conflict. The war between the states turned forges into factories for cannons, rifles and iron plates . . . brother against brother on the bloody field of strife! Gallantly the men of Flora responded to the cause.

EPISODE XII SURRENDER

On April 9, 1865 General Lee surrendered to General Grant at Appomattox and the war was over. Wearily the men of Flora returned home to peace once again.

EPISODE XIII

BIKES, BUSTLES AND MUSTACHES

It was the era of "The Bicycle Built for Two," Leg O'Mutton Sleeves, Empress Eugenie Hats and Wasp Like Waists. The fair was great and everyone was in the mood for basket picnics. The innovation called "The Horseless Carriage" made its first appearance. The "naughty girls" were the Can-Can dancers who travelled with the medicine shows. All good clean fun of the gay 90's . . . reminiscent of the days when Grandma was in her teens.

EPISODE XIV

COLORFUL PERSONALITIES

EPISODE XV

WORLD WAR I

In 1914 Flora heard the troubled sounds of war in the waking as President Wilson protested the un-resisted submarine warfare. However, the climax came in 1917 when the Lusitania was sunk and the United States entered the war.

EPISODE XVI

THE ROARING TWENTIES

It was the golden age of bathtub gin and "Yes, We Have No Bananas", plus fours and flappers. A dance sensation hit the nation and everyone in Flora was doing . . . The Charleston.

EPISODE XVII

BLACK GOLD

In 1937, in the midst of the depression years, the first oil well was brought in in Flora and with this black gusher came a new era of prosperity and a new industry.

EPISODE XVIII

WORLD WAR II

With startling suddenness the news of war came to the United States for the second time in a generation. The Japanese had attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Places like Anzio, Guadalcanal, Mt. Suribachi, the Battle of the Bulge and the South Pacific were just a few of the historic places in which many boys from Flora fought, struggled and died.

GRAND FINALE

THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER

FIREWORKS

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"Shoes and Accessories for the Entire Family"

Shoes for You Since 1902!

We Give and Redeem Eagle Stamps

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PRESENTS

The Dramatic Historical Spectacle

"Flora Through The Years"

AT THE

FLORA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD

AT 8:15 CST

JULY 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9, 1954

ENTIRE PRODUCTION STAGED AND DESIGNED

By

SPERO ARBES

A John B. Rogers Production

Cast

NARRATORS: Floyd C. Smith and Joan Lynne Johnson.

PROLOGUE

TRUMPETEERS: Eleanor Kutlich, Faith Ann McLaughlin, Linda Haynes, Pam Wells, Kay Schroeder and Ruth Ann McGonagil.

CADETS: Georgine Buckleh, Barbara Levitt, Kay Eaton, Barbara Hardy, Christine Whelan, Helen Hardy, Sandra Martin, Mona Dennis, Dalla Franklyn, Patsy Buckelh.

SAILORETTES: Sandra Brown, Jane Shuler, Joan Bryden, Glenda Stanford, Sandra Phillips, Elizabeth Greenwood, Marianne Judd, Sara Spalding, Peggy Schenk, Dorothy Jo Daubs, Delores Eastin, Rebecca Wood, Karen Keith, Marianne Buckleh, Mona Dennis.

GIRL SCOUTS: Kay Callis, Sandra Jenkins, Paula Bryan, Patsy Jenkins, Alice Cartright, Glennadean Taylor, Linda Eskew Shirley Zimmerman.

BOY SCOUTS: Gary Brewer, John Englemeer, John Thomas, Arthur Hinman, Herbie Henson, Walter Crowder, Bobby Beck, Willie Thompson, Larry Childers, Wayne Carter, Hal Wineland, Steve Smith, Vernon Jamisson, Jimmy Bryan.

LADIES OF COLUMBIA: Virginia Reynolds, Cordell Etchison, Berdina Harrell, Doris Cummins, Lenore Wells, Eleanor Kutlich, Mrs. Freeman Holland, Mrs. Fred Chaney, Nancy Woomer, Lorraine Ruwe, Mary Brewer and Linda Hunter.

NATIONS QUEENS: Carolyn Shipley, Mrs. Jim Williams, Joyce Haycock, Mrs. Clair Christensen, Mrs. Don Hall, Brenda Holland.

EPISODE I

INDIAN CHIEF: Roger Wells.

LA SALLE: Jim Eleam.

FRENCH SOLDIERS: Art Walker, Paul Tucker.

MISSIONARIES: Wendell Wells, Clark Wood.

INDIAN BRAVES: Jerry Warren, Roger Bay, Charles Westman, Galen Henson, Jim Higginbotham, Jerry White, Robert Koons, Ira Sutterfield.

INDIAN SQUAWS: Mrs. Clark Wood, Mrs. Paul Tucker, Mrs. Art Walker, Mrs. Art Bailey, Shirley Henson, Barbara Brainard, Glenna Luttrell, Frieda Shelton, Mrs. Charles E. Rankin.

INDIAN CHILDREN: Dickie Conley, Alvin Tucker, Steve Eleam, Jerry Bailey, Jerry Lynn Wood, Mary Ann Luttrell, Stephanie Joe Wells, Arthalyn Walker, Sharon Bailey, Bonnie Eleam.

EPISODE II

Indian Braves and French Soldiers from previous scene, traders from Pioneer scene.

EPISODE III

EPISODE IV

GEORGE ROGERS CLARK: John Conley, also characters from other scenes.

EPISODE V

SOLDIERS: Larry Goldsby, John Rice, Joe Morkin, Reaugh Eaton, Ed Perk, Jim Grove, Jim Wells, Phil Mann, Danny Riggle, Jerry Maxwell, Dennis Perk, Don Goff. Also characters from other scenes.

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Toward the Next 100 Years of Progress
FOUR SISTERS MANUFACTURING CO.

Flora, Illinois

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CUSICK BARBER SHOP

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STINE CANDY COMPANY

Orval F. Stine, Owner

EPISODE VI

PIONEER MEN: Rex Briscoe, Dode Briscoe, Russell Guinn, Murray Kimbrell, William Martin, Charles Cox, Hayward White, Delbert White, John Porter, Tom Egan, Freeman Holland, Neil Maxwell.

PIONEER WOMEN: Mrs. Dode Briscoe, Mrs. Delbert White, Mrs. Iva Oliver, Pearl Dunnigan, Barbara Brainard, Frieda Shelton, Hallie Tackitt, Susie Corrie, Delores McCarrell, Mrs. Marie Schroeder, Rosemary Hunter, Mary Brewer, Nancy Woome, Glenda Hunter, Loraine Ruwe, Jo Kimbrell, Mrs. William Martin, Mrs. Dora Naney, Mrs. H. D. Fehrenbacher.

PIONEER CHILDREN: Steve Ober, Mike Ober, Don Morkin.

EPISODE VII

MINISTER: Rev. H. W. Ballard.
Pioneers from previous scene.

EPISODE VIII

MR. WHITE: Dr. Paul Naney.
MR. BROWN: Vern Hartung.
SURVEYORS: Rex Briscoe, Dode Briscoe.

EPISODE IX

SCHOOL TEACHER: Mrs. Vern Hartung.
SCHOOL CHILDREN: Stephanie Hartung, Monica Hartung, Nancy Christensen, Michael Hutmacher, Judy Christensen, Jennifer Smith, Agnes Whelan, Maureen Buckleh, Joan Owens, Connie Sulsberger, Sandra Graham, Tima Buckleh, Jane Sulsberger, Bernice Mary Rhinehart, Elaine Hobbs, Mike Ober, Howard Ed Perk, Steve Ober, Tommie Ober.

EPISODE X

ENGINEER: Frank Berry.
CONDUCTOR: Rolland Gilliland.
SQUARE DANCERS: Dr. and Mrs. Paul Naney, Vern and Mrs. Hartung, Mr. and Mrs. George Callis, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Rinnert, Mr. and Mrs. Clair Christensen, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Haskins.

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MUSIC

ACCOMPANISTS

SOUND

LIGHTING

STAGE CONSTRUCTION

COSTUMES

PROPERTIES

CASTING

OFFICE STAFF

FLOWERS

Jerry Hogan
Mrs. P. L. Spalding
Carole Brooks and Beverly Carter
Gaylon Borders
Bob Fahler, J. F. Dulaney
Jack McGonagil, Maurice Mosele
And Carpenters Union Local 1404
Mrs. J. W. Rudy, Mrs. Charles Snyder, Sr. Co-chairmen
Bill Middleton and Bill Mangis, Co-chairmen
Phyllis Wells, Regina Buckleh, Co-chairmen
Sara Richey, Margaret Crackel
Mrs. H. D. Fehrenbacher

EPISODE XI

SOLDIER: Ed Perk.
WIFE: Glenda Stanford.
CHILD: Maureen Buckleh.

EPISODE XII

ABRAHAM LINCOLN: Leland Schroeder.
GEN. LEE: Robert A. Riddle.
SOLDIERS: Larry Goldsby, Phil Mann, Danny Riddle, Jerry Maxwell, Reaugh Eaton, Ed Perk, Jim Grove.

EPISODE XIII

GAY 90 MEN: Tom Egan, Charles Cox, Bob Mitchell, Joe Watts, Delbert White, Freeman Holland, Dode Briscoe, Rex Briscoe, Wheezer Briscoe, Eugene Cusick, Fred Chaney, Clair Christensen.
GAY 90 WOMEN: Marie Spriggs, Mrs. Charles Cox, Mrs. Bob Mitchell, Mrs. Tom Egan, Mrs. Joe Watts, Mrs. Delbert White, Mrs. Freeman Holland, Delores McCarrel, Mrs. Fred Chaney, Janet Kay Smith, Jane Shuler, Sandra Martin.
GAY 90 CHILDREN: John Mitchell, Duane Cox, Walter Cox, Danny Mitchell, Barbara Cox.
CAN CAN GIRLS: Patsy Buckleh, Sara Spalding, Patty Owens, Marianne Judd, Marianne Buckleh, Patty Schenk.

EPISODE XIV

GIRL: Georgianne Buckleh.

EPISODE XV

EPISODE XVI

CHARLESTON DANCERS: Delores Eaton, Marianne Buckleh, Joyce Wood, Kay Ober, Dianne Widdows.

EPISODE XVII

OIL MEN: Johnny Baker, Eldon Reid.
Also Characters from previous scenes.

EPISODE XVIII

SERVICEMEN: John Conley, Jerry Maxwell, Jim Grove, Jimmy Wells.

FINALE

ENTIRE CAST

IN APPRECIATION —

CRACKEL'S GENERAL ELECTRIC APPLIANCE STORE, Olney, Illinois who furnished the organ for the religious services held Sunday night, July 4.

SAMUEL MUSIC CO. Effingham, Illinois, who furnished the pianos for the Pageant Program.



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- KOLOR-BRITE ENAMEL
- FLOOR WAXES

FLOOR SANDERS AND POLISHERS FOR RENT



— 1937 —

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AT YOUR SERVICE

Left to right: Ed Guyott, Bill Boon,
Songer, Jerry Allen, Glen Valbert

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—
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FREE ESTIMATES

Financing Arranged

FLORA THE YEARS LUMBER CO.

"OUR NUMBER"



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WEYERHAEUSER 4 SQUARE LUMBER

CREOSOTED POSTS AND POLES



— 1945 —

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Queen Contest of Flora and Clay County sponsored by L. M. Wood as editor of the Flora Daily News-Record, May 22, 1937. Pictured above, bottom row, left to right: Marie Laycox, Glendora Bowles, Esther Bryan, Queen of Flora, Pearl Baker, Clay County Queen, Vera Fleshman, Queen from 1934 to 1937, Genella Pressly — top row: Georgia Watson, Mildred Wilson, Geneva Brown.



FLORA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT —1926 — Organized March 7, 1921.

Bottom row: Bob Stevens, Eldon Karr, Charles L. Briscoe, Walter Rogers, Homer Bute, Glen Baker, Leslie Wells, John Venable, Harry Rice, Rube McCormick, Leo Allen, Ben Reaugh and Frank Naney.

Top row: O. H. Byars, Oscar Brissenden, C. D. McGannon, Rex Cunningham, Sam Hemphill, Virgil Staley, Kent Beavers, Nick Shephard, Uncle Faye Yeck, Chat Edwards, Sam Bryden, A. Kirkpatrick, Grubby Hornbuckle, Reed Grant and Hayward White.

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Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts

The Boy Scout movement was introduced to Flora as early as 1918, when Jesse H. Harrison organized Troop No. 1, oldest troop in what is now the Buffalo Trace Council, comprising 12 counties. Troop One started with three assistant scoutmasters and 33 boys, it has had 17 different scoutmasters and produced the first Eagle Scout here.

Later Troops No. Two, Three, Four, and Eight were organized, with many ups and downs, and today there are two Scout troops and two Cub Scout Packs functioning, with a total of 140 boys in the four units. The first Cub Pack was organized in 1933.

There have also been Sea Scouts and Air Scouts in separate patrols, and probably eight Eagle Scouts have reached the top in Scoutingdom.

Four Scouts from Flora attended the National Jamboree at the Irvine Ranch in California last year, and several boys are now working on their Eagle tests.

Early scout troops were registered directly with the National Council and there are indications that a troop was in existence as early as 1914.

In 1928 the Flora Troop became a part of the Ambraw-Wabash Area Council, and this name was changed to the Buffalo Trace Council this year.

The Girl Scout movement in Flora is relatively new, but its record of growth and community service is noteworthy. It has progressed from three lone troops to a Council of ninety members, which serves thirteen troops, two hundred nine Scouts, and thirty adult leaders.

Plans were begun in 1943 to organize a local Council, and with the aid of the minister of the Presbyterian Church, Rev. Heideman, the first governing body was set up, headed by Mrs. W. F. Bennett. With the assistance of business-men and women, churches, schools, and lodges, new troops were formed, Scout Haven became a reality, and an increasing stream of interested people made it possible for every girl in Flora to be a Girl Scout.

The Girl Scout Board has been led by Mrs. J. W. Rudy, who followed Mrs. W. F. Bennett in office, and Mrs. Ted Large, whose unexpired term is being filled by Mrs. Herman Hardy.

Space does not permit mention of all who have contributed money, time, and thought to their growth, but the Girl Scouts of Flora stand as a tribute to the community that sustains them.

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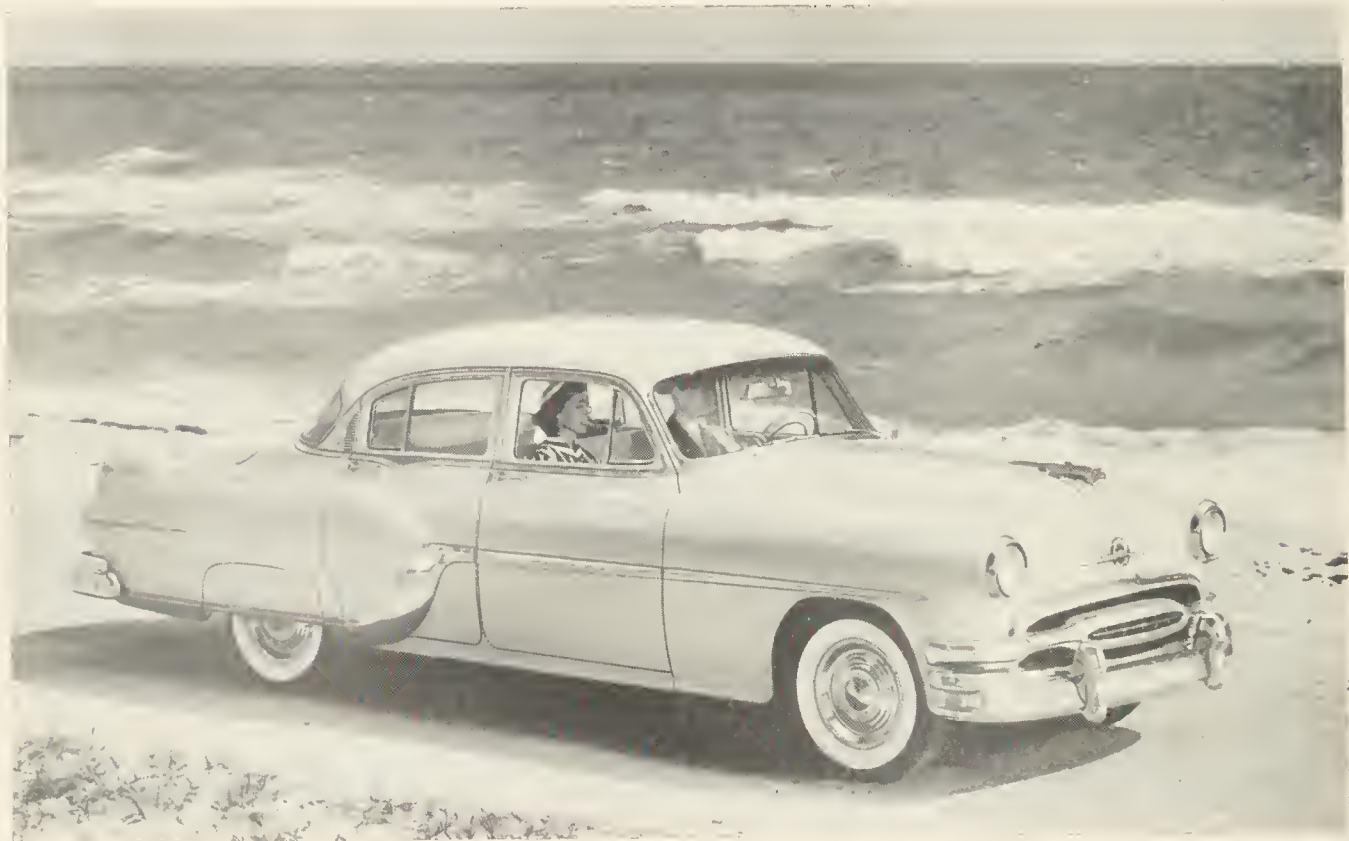
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Character Sketches

R. S. JONES was born in Xenia, June 20, 1871. During the earlier part of his life he traveled many years for International Harvester Company. Later, he served two terms in the Illinois State Legislature, from 1911 to 1915; is a former chief factory inspector of the State of Illinois; was employed as field secretary for the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, and is a former executive secretary of the Flora Chamber of Commerce.

G. O. LEWIS, (1869-1938), was born in Stanford Township, near Flora, and spent his entire life in Clay County. Mr. Lewis probably helped with the education of more Flora young people than any other one person, having served as county superintendent of schools 13 years, and, at the time of his death, was in his 20th year as superintendent of the Flora Grade Schools.

WILLIAM F. CHANEY, (1874-1940), was a native-born resident of Flora, who spent his entire life here. He was owner and manager of a grocery store, as well as a butcher, but he was best known for his Cyclone Band—an outstanding and prominent musical aggregation during the turn of the century. A talented musician himself, Mr. Chaney's band was trained to perfection, and its weekly concerts were among the highlights of Flora during that era.

GENERAL LEWIS B. PARSONS, (1818-1907) was one of Flora's most prominent and best-known persons. He came from the East, having been born in Genesee County, New York, following the railroad on its western expansion. During the Civil war, he was made a colonel by President Abraham Lincoln, because of his uncanny ability to speed up the movements of the troops and animals of the Union Army, by boat or by rail. Later, became an attorney for the St. Louis banking firm of Page and Bacon, then engaged in building the O. and M. (now B. and O.) railroad. On one of his many business trips for that company, he saw a beautiful stretch of unbroken prairie near the hamlet of Flora, which immediately captured his fancy. This tract of land, containing 2,800 acres was purchased by him and developed into a modern farm, which he named Elmwood. Except for short interludes spent away from his home on business, he reared his family and spent the greater part of his life at this beautiful country estate near Flora.

C. S. CUNNINGHAM (1870-1934), was a former Flora Mayor, was among the city's early and prominent businessmen. He succeeded his father, John M. Cunningham, in the jewelry business, in which he remained for several years. Later in life, he relinquished this business, to travel for a bank lock inspection company.

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Esther Greenwood, Treasurer
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M. J. Thibodeau, Sr. Vice Commander
Ralph Richey, Jr. Vice Commander
Charles Dulaney, Adjutant
L. R. McLaughlin, Finance Officer
Walter V. Cook, Sgt. at Arms

Character Sketches

JOHN H. THROGMORTON was born in Carterville, Illinois Oct. 1, 1885. In 1909, he moved to Flora, where he since has operated one of Southern Illinois' most popular drugstores. He generally is known as the "Father of Flora Tennis," having encouraged many local youngsters to take up that game, which he himself has played for more than 50 years. He is also an enthusiast and authority on all other types of sports, to such an extent that his drugstore is known as Flora's unofficial sportsmen's headquarters. To him goes much of the credit for the city's sports-minded. A number of younger people also have been helped on to careers in the professional world through his efforts and interests.

GEORGE JEFFERSON PRICE, (1853-1932), was a former civic leader and mayor of Flora for 12 years, from 1915 to 1927. During his administration, the city light plant was remodeled, city waterworks extended, considerable other improvements made, and, at the end of his term in office, the city had all bills paid, and was considerable money ahead. He was the father of Clarence V. Price, now living in New York, who has never lost interest in his native city of Flora, and has been a 100 per cent booster of the Flora Centennial.

HARLAND D. FRIEND, (1891-1946), was a native of Flora, who spared no time or effort toward any civic project, or in any move designed to aid the growth and progress of Flora. At the time of his death, he was serving as secretary of the Flora Mutual B. L. & H. Association. He was also a member of the Flora Fire Department, and a past commander of the local American Legion Post, in addition to his church and lodge work. He was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Friend, early Flora residents.

CHARLES H. GREENWOOD, (1871-1946), was a native of Flora, born near east city limits. For a number of years, he was engaged in the restaurant business, his cafe having been the popular eating-place of B. and O. Railroad employes. For several years, he served as city clerk, and later as Flora postmaster, holding that position at the time of his death. He was one of those who helped secure Charley Brown Memorial Park for the city of Flora.

DR. NORTON W. BOWMAN, (1871-1948), was one of Flora's earlier doctors, whose interests and activities in a wide variety of civic, fraternal and charitable fields are a Flora tradition. He was a former American Legion Commander, having been a veteran of World War I.

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Character Sketches

E. D. (Uncle Fay) YECK (1857-1948), served for 27 years as chief of the Flora Volunteer Fire Department. When he died, he was still active in this capacity, and was nationally known as the oldest fire chief in the United States. He was beloved, respected by every resident of Flora, as well as all the firemen. For many years he followed his trade as a barber, having been a partner with his brother, W. W. Yeck, in opening one of the city's first barber shops.

EDWARD MANN is a life-long resident of Flora, who was born here Oct. 24, 1882. For a half-a-century, he actively managed the Dale Mann and Co., drygoods store, which was founded by his father, Dale Mann, and is now operated by his sons, P. E. and E. W. Mann. He is a former city commissioner, and has served for many years as a director of the Flora Mutual B. L. and H. Ass'n., a position he still holds.

CHARLES E. HEMPHILL was born July 23, 1877 in Sparta, Illinois, but for many years has been a resident of Flora. He is the president of First National Bank, and has gained wide recognition for his speaking ability. For many years, he has taught the Men's Class of the Methodist Church, among the largest Sunday school classes in the city.

DR. DELYTE W. MORRIS is a native of Xenia, Clay County, Illinois, and was graduated from high school in Flora. He is currently serving as president of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, having previously been director of the Speech and Hearing Clinic at Ohio State University.

MRS. REGINA BUCKLEH, is a comparative newcomer to Flora, but has given unstintingly of her time to civic enterprises. Owner and operator of the Four Sisters Manufacturing Co., she is chairman of the industrial committee of Flora C. of C.

JERRY BOWMAN, (1877-1951), was born in Des Moines, Ia., but came to Flora as a child. In later life, he owned and operated a hardware store, during which time his devotion to civic duty is a legend in the annals of history.

J. C. SCUDAMORE (1872-1948) is a native of Wayne County, who moved, at an early age to Flora, where most of his life was spent. He owned and operated one of the city's earliest and largest department stores, which is still in existence under the management of his son, R. H. Scudamore. He was also active in civic circles, and in C. of C. affairs.

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Civic and Fraternal Groups

Flora Lodge No. 204, A. F. and A. M., is the oldest fraternal organization in Flora, having been founded October 7, 1856. Its affiliates are Radiant Chapter No. 105, Order of Eastern Star; Flora Chapter, White Shrine of Jerusalem; Flora Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and Flora Chapter of Order of Rainbow for Girls.

Veterans organizations include Clay County Post No. 14, American Legion; Leslie Edgar Etchason Post No. 3999, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Clay County Chapter of Disabled American Veterans. All the Veterans organizations have active Women's Auxiliaries.

Service Clubs are the Kiwanis Club of Flora; the Flora Rotary Club and the Flora Lions Club.

Other Fraternal organizations are Flora Lodge No. 1659, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; Flora Eagles Lodge, Aerie No. 2494; the Flora Lodge of the Loyal Order of Moose, and Flora Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Women's organizations, affiliated with the fraternal groups are Flora Rebekah Lodge, Miss Flora Theta Rho Girls Club, the Ladies Auxiliary to the Flora Eagles Lodge.

The leading civic organizations are the Flora Chamber of Commerce, which succeeded the Flora Commercial Club, formed in the early 1900's; and the Flora Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Other organizations in Flora, all of which have contributed to its growth and development are: Business and Professional Woman's Club; Flora Ministerial Alliance; Boy Scouts of America; Girl Scouts of America; Flora Garden Club; Flora Woman's Club; Woman's Christian Temperance Union; Ladies Reading Club, the oldest woman's organization in Flora;

Nu Phi Mu Sorority; Beta Sigma Phi Sorority; Flora Country Club; Flora Labor Unions; Flora High School Band Boosters; Flora Tavern Association, St. Stephen's Holy Name Society, and St. Stephen's Altar Society.

Mother's Clubs, organized in connection with the schools in the city of Flora, are Washington Mothers Club, Seminary Mothers Club, McEndree Mothers Club and St. Stephen's Mother Club.

One of the most active organizations in the city, with a long, splendid record through the years, is the Flora Volunteer Fire Department, who has kept fire damage in Flora at a minimum. Its present chief is W. E. Wood.

County-wide clubs and organizations, with a large percentage of their membership from Flora, are Clay County Hospital Auxiliary; Clay County Tuberculosis Association; Clay County Chapter American Red Cross; Clay County Federation of Woman's Clubs; Clay County Youth Council; Clay County Shrine Club; Clay County "80" Club; Clay County Bar Association and Clay County Medical Society.

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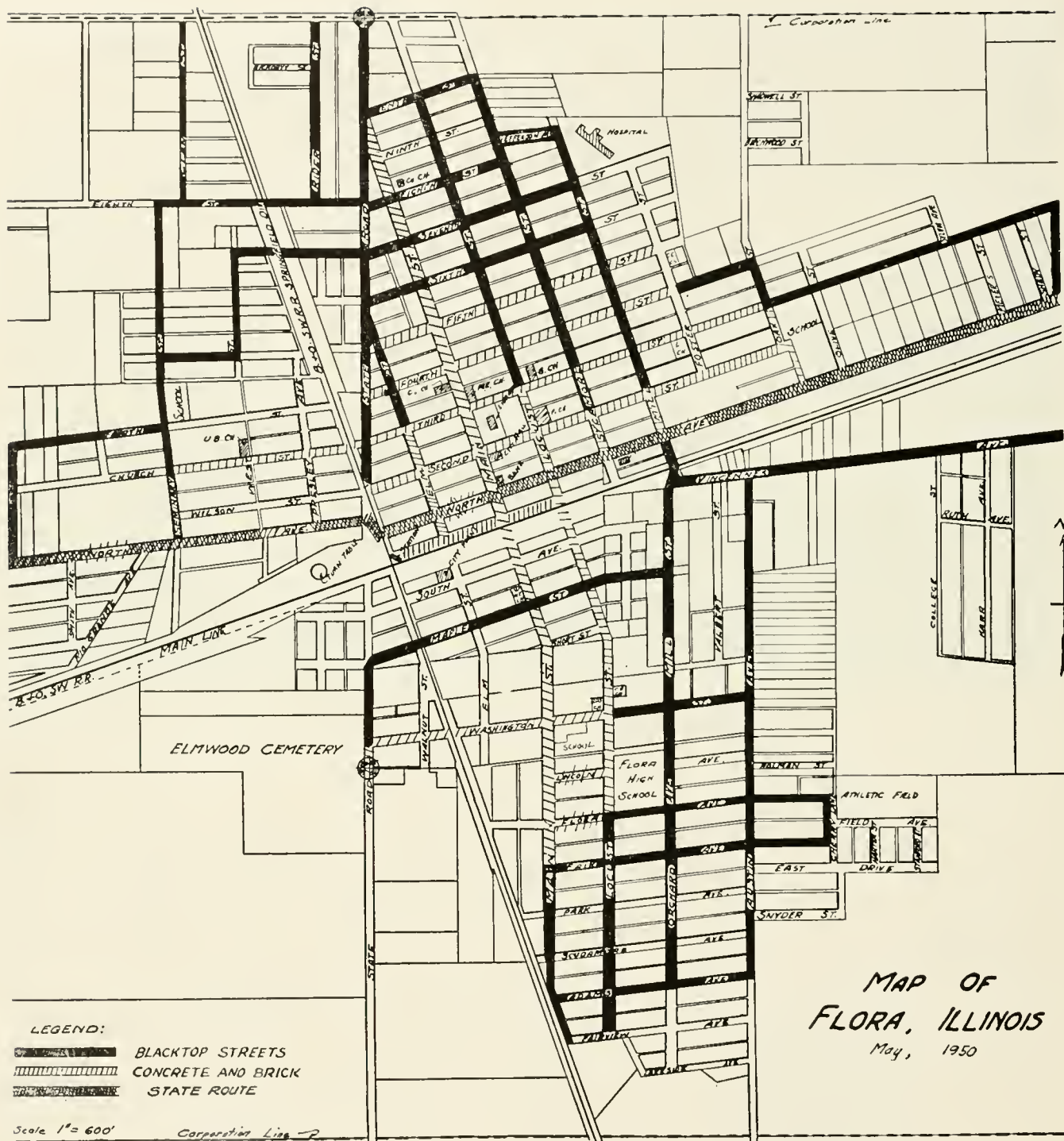
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FLORA COUNTRY CLUB — Picture taken on South side of new pro shop, June 9, 1954. Left to right: Jack McGonagil, Ed McDonald, Harold Crackel and Regina Buckleh, Directors; Billy Mangis, President, E. Harold Wineland, Secretary, P. E. Mann, Vice President. Other Directors not present: Ted Large, Leo Kutlich, W. E. Wood and M. Mosele.

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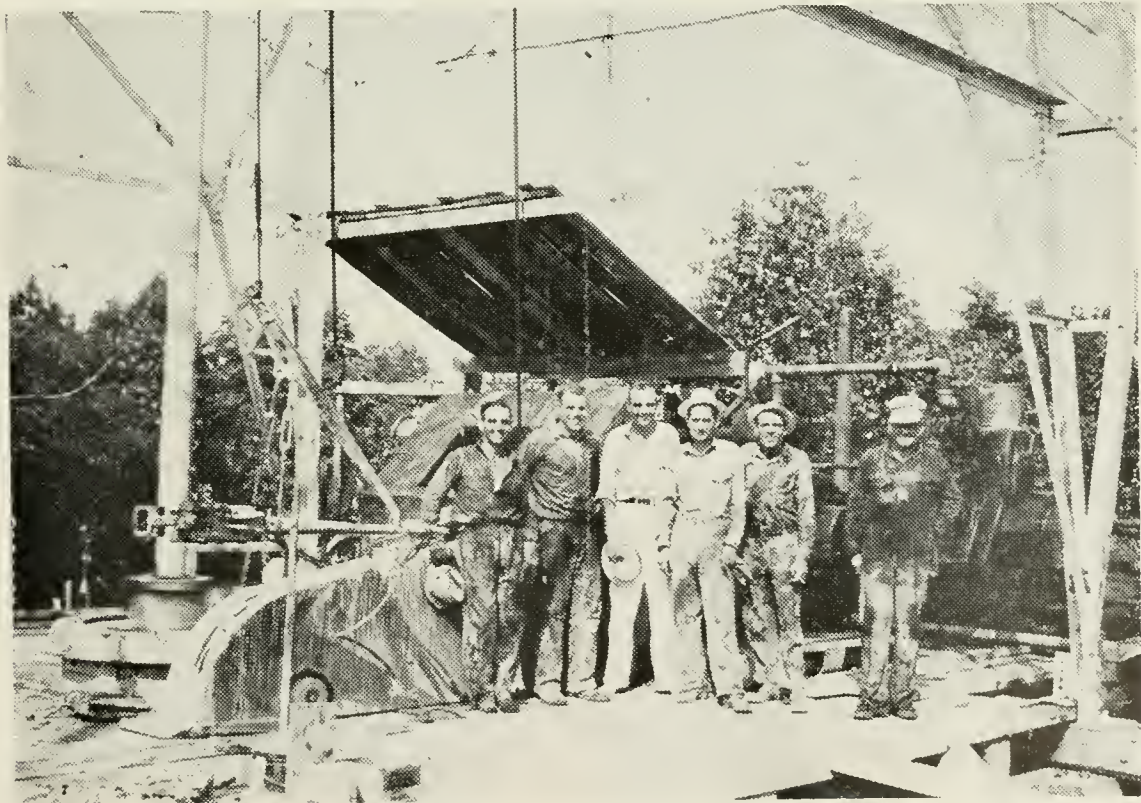
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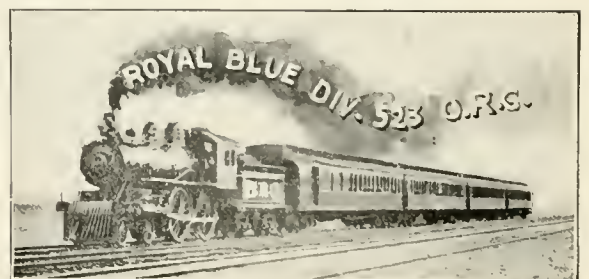
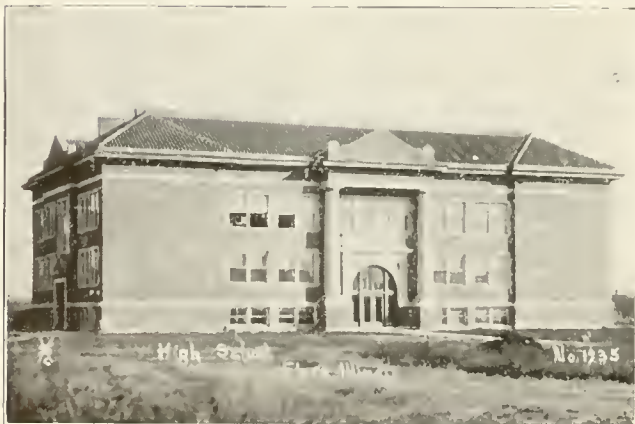


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PAR-T-PAK - - - - Full 32 oz. Quarts

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NEHI CORPORATION

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R. H. Gatewood — Engineering Department



"Johnnie"
J. M. Martin

Congratulations Flora

On Your Accomplishments of the past 100 years.
May the next 100 years show an even greater spirit
of progressiveness and cooperation.



"Bob"
J. R. Wood

We appreciate the opportunity of serving the people of Flora
through the printing of this Centennial Souvenir Program. We
hope you like it.

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Ralph Carlson, Distributor



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FLORA TAVERN ASSOCIATION

BROEG'S GREEN TREE

SPOT TAVERN

SILVER MOON

NEW CASINO

Centennial Activities





Fourth of July, 1904 — C. E. Hemphill, Con Bothwell, Bob Graham, Randolph Smith and H. F. Pixley.

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1854 . . . First there were Ice Houses—

**AND NOW
THE**

1899 . . . and then there were Ice Boxes—



1923 . . . the Electric Refrigerator.

With an eye to the future and an ear to the ground,

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L. D. Etchison

Ethel Brooks

John R. Etchison





Flora City Hall



Flora Carnegie Library



The departure of the razor and the lipstick



Elks Centennial Card Party



Off to the Ballgame — Centennial Excursion to Busch Stadium, St. Louis.

Above left — R. S. Jones receiving his 50 year Masonic pin from Grand Master, Carroll T. Hughes.

Left — Mr. and Mrs. Herb McMillan.

1883

1954

71 Years of Service to Our Community

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118 North Main Street

Authorized Capital \$4,000,000

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J. H. Throgmorton, Vice-President and Director.

H. F. Pixley, Director

H. T. Patton, Director

Ernest Taylor, Vice-President and Director

N. J. Branson, Director

C. E. Gilliland, Secretary & Director

C. E. Hemphill, Treasurer
Lucile Walsh, Assistant Secretary
Marilyn Wells, Bookkeeper

MEMBER

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The City of Flowers

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E. M. PETTY

Plumbing Shop

Character Sketches

COL. RANDOLPH SMITH, (1849-1924), was born in Marion County, moving to Clay County as a young man, to accept a position as a deputy in the circuit clerk's office. He received his title of "colonel" when he was serving on the staff of Governor Dennen, in the same capacity in which he served both Governors Tanner and Yates. A real estate man and a banker, he was one of the most influential and colorful men in Clay County.

ROBLEY V. STEPHENS, (1895-1944), was born in Fairfield, but moved to Flora in early youth. His was a life of unselfish devotion to mankind and service to others. He was Flora chief of police for many years, a member of the Fire Department, and a past commander of the local American Legion Post, having been a veteran of World War I. During World War II, he served faithfully and conscientiously as chairman of the Clay County Selective Service Board.

CHARLES C. SNYDER, SR., (1898-1952), spent most of his life in Flora, having been born nearby in Stanford Township. In addition to his work in the First Christian Church, he served at various times on Flora school boards, was an active member of the Flora Rotary Club, a former commissioner of the City of Flora, and was acting postmaster for several years during World War II.

T. B. GREENLAW, (1847-1923), was a native of Maine, who, with his parents first migrated west to Joliet, Illinois. After teaching at nearby Elwood for six years, he was appointed superintendent of the city schools of Flora, where most of the remainder of his life was spent. He was best and most extensively known for his constant and diligent work to stimulate and further education. Along this line, he was the author of several text books, as well as being the founder and guiding spirit of the Orchard City Business College, Flora's first and only college. This, he established in 1890, and operated it until the early 1920's. He also served one term, from 1894 to 1898, as county superintendent of schools, and was a former editor and co-owner with his son, Lowell of the Clay County Record, first published in 1898, and later the Southern Illinois Journal Record, when the two papers consolidated in 1903. At the time of his death, he was working on an invention, "The Won-Dip Pen," whose principle now has been adopted by other manufacturers.

HARVEY W. SHRINER, (1861-1952), a native of Flora, was numbered among the first lawyers of Clay County. He served as state's attorney for six consecutive terms, in addition to holding a number of other civic and political posts.



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1925 — 1954

A. W. Haak, Florist

Character Sketches

CHARLEY F. BROWN, (1862-1934), was born in Stanford Township, Clay County, the son of Pearley P. Brown, a pioneer who had migrated to Clay County from Vinton County, Ohio, and Clarissa Dunkle-Brown. Mr. Brown was a prominent landowner and stockman, whose widespread interests included an outstanding civic devotion. He contributed much to the growth and progress of Flora, and it is in his honor that Flora's beautiful Charley Brown Memorial Park was named and dedicated. The generosity and cooperation of his widow, Mrs. Minn L. Hanna-Brown, who still resides in Flora, made it possible for Flora to secure this popular recreational spot.

H. F. PIXLEY, a native of Clay County, was born in 1869 in Pixley Township, which was named for his father, the late Osman Pixley. Mr. Pixley served as president of Flora's First National Bank from 1910 until he retired in 1950, and is now president of the board. For more than 50 years, he has been a director of the Flora Mutual B. L. and H. Association, and Flora Carnegie Library, to mention a few of his widespread interests and activities.

LOREN M. WOOD, (1868-1941), was a native of Clay County, having been born in Xenia. He became interested in the publishing business as a young man, and pursued that career during his entire life. After owning newspapers in Sumner and Toledo, he returned to his native Clay County, to become manager and editor of the Flora Journal-Record and later, the Flora Daily News-Record, after merging of the two newspapers. He helped to organize the first Commercial Club in Flora, and served as both its president and secretary, and was president of the Chamber of Commerce, after it replaced the Commercial Club. It was at his proposal that the Illinois Hall of Fame for editors was established.

BEN F. WINELAND was born in Girard, Macoupin County, Illinois in 1870. He came to Flora as a carpenter, a trade which he followed for many years. Later, he served as postmaster here for seven years, and is now in his fourth term as the city's police magistrate.

W. E. WOOD, SR., (1864-1931), was a former Flora businessman, who served as mayor from 1926 to 1930.

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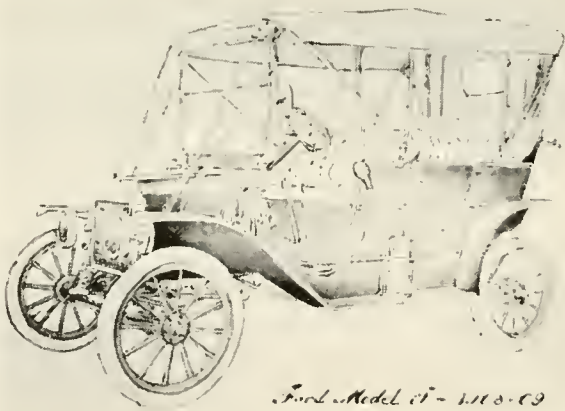


120A North Main

All Visiting Elks Welcome!



A QUEEN WAS CROWNED IN 1925 — Shown from left to right, at a coronation ceremony almost 30 years ago are the former Esther Lewis, Marjorie Golden, Martha Bowman, Celia Tibbs, Cora Stanford, Ruey Stanford and Dorothy Wood; seated, Virginia Mann, the queen.



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Flora, Illinois

Flora Garden Club

FLORA GARDEN CLUB HAS FINE RECORD

Organized in 1932 with one unit, and growing steadily until now it has thirteen, the Flora Garden Club has a long record of successes, including outstanding flower shows, civic work, and special planting projects.

The club has received a special award for a memorial planting in Brown Memorial Park, is just completing landscaping the Clay County Hospital grounds, and has planted scotch pines for future Christmas trees at the McEndree School.

Its first flower show was held in 1933, with 107 entries and 457 varieties, and the event has grown steadily in favor.

Presidents have been Mrs. N. B. Hettiger, Mrs. Wilna Reaugh, Mrs. Roy Charlton, A. I. Belt, Mrs. Clark Akers, Mrs. C. R. Webb, Mrs. G. Earl Wood, Rev. H. Q. Morton, Lester Garver, Mrs. Ira Theobald, and Mrs. H. D. Fehrenbacher.

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Thank You

To each and everyone, our most humble and deepest gratitude for the wonderful effort and cooperation that has made the growth of our beloved community possible. This centennial will be one of the most remembered events in our history of progress and may the future years continue the growth and prosperity of all our undertakings towards making our community a "bigger and better place to live."

With the same token of appreciation, we gratefully say, "thank you" to the different organizations, newspaper, business people, city officials and employees, churches, schools, and individuals who have given their time and energies in making such a gigantic success of the commemoration depicting the 100 years of progress in Flora.

CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

A Hearty Welcome To All



FLORA CITY OFFICIALS

James M. Clark, Commissioner

Robert Walker, Commissioner

B. V. "Buck" Spalding, Mayor

Margarette Meisenheimer, Commissioner

Lyman Bottorff, Treasurer

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